



KNOX
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Sunday Worship Service

December 17, 2023

11:30 AM

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship – from Isaiah 9

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;

**those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.**

³You have multiplied exultation;
you have increased its joy;

**they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,**

⁶For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;

authority rests upon his shoulders,
and he is named

**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

What Wondrous Love is This? – Hymn #212

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down;
when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!

Prayer of Confession

Brokenness Aside

CCLI Song # 5881109 | © 2011 Integrity's Praise! Music; Little Way Creative

Will Your grace run out if I let You down
'Cause all I know is how to run

Chorus

'Cause I am a sinner if it's not one thing it's another
Caught up in words tangled in lies
But You are a Savior and You take brokenness aside
And make it beautiful, beautiful

Will You call me child when I tell You lies
'Cause all I know is how to cry (*chorus*)

Bridge

You make it beautiful, You make it beautiful
You make it beautiful, You make it beautiful (*chorus*)

Assurance of Pardon

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on!
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on
and through eternity I'll sing on!

Prayers of the People

Have Mercy

CCLI Song # 7041358 | © 2015 Little Hoss Music; Integrity Worship Music; Paper News Publishing

Have mercy on us, have mercy on us
O Lord, have mercy
O Lord, have mercy

Minute for Mission

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle - Love

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

You are now invited to light a candle at the front of the sanctuary



Scan the QR code for online giving

First Scripture Reading – John 1:1-13

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

Second Scripture Reading – Romans 5

¹Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. ⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Sermon

Open Up

John Arndt / David Gungor © 2011

You heard the cry of our hearts and you came down
Freely you gave us your love, showing us how

Make me an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred let me show love
Where there is darkness let me shine light and
May your love cause us to open up
Cause us to open up our hearts
May your light cause us to shine so bright
That we bring hope into the dark

All that we do without love, it means nothing
Grant us the courage to give, as you're calling

Benediction

Thank you to our Leaders in Worship

Pastor: Rev. Drew Peterson

Pastor for Imaginative Worship: Rev. Dr. Taylor Telford

Preacher: Nick Robertson

Worship Leaders: Beth Abbey, Juan Chona, Liv Larinan

Audio/Video Technician: Jason Stuart

Greeter: Karen Colvin

Upcoming Schedule

Dec 17	Worship & Christmas Joy Offering collection	11:30 a.m.
Dec 18	Session	6-8p.m.
Dec 21	Bethany Presbyterian Church Service for the Weary at Knox Pres	6:30 pm
Dec 24	Christmas Eve Worship	4:30 p.m.
Dec 31	New Years Eve Morning Worship	11:30 a.m.

Announcements

Christmas Eve Worship will be at 4:30 p.m. with no morning worship.

Thank you to the Knox congregation for your help in our successful participation with **Christmas is in the Bag!** Thanks to your generosity, we were able to fill 18 purses to bless the women who work at Christ Kitchen.

Prayers

Middle East

Continue to pray for peace in Gaza and Israel.

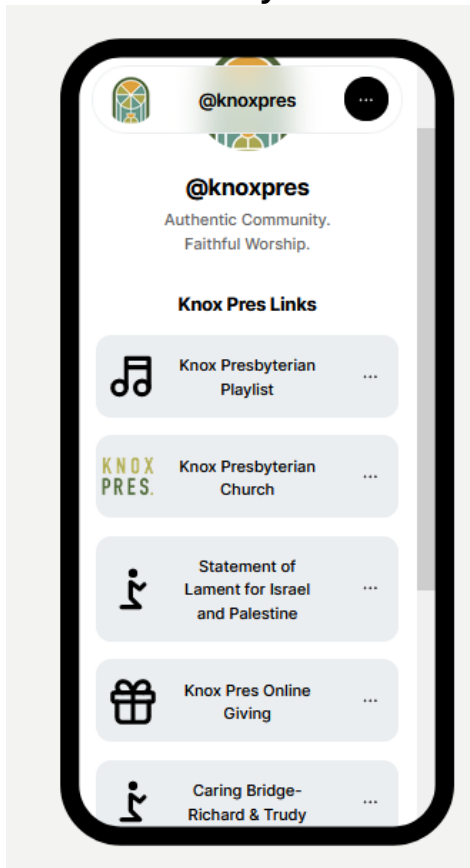
Richard Raymond

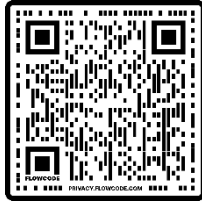
Pray for Richard Raymond's health, and strength for Trudy as they navigate through this uncertain time. You can leave a prayer and follow their journey on Caring Bridge **by scanning the Knox Link Tree QR Code below.**

Knox Presbyterian Church Link Tree QR Code



Scan the QR Code above with your phone camera to find Knox-specific links.
This is what you'll see:





Scan the QR code to Request a Meeting with the Pastor

Notes: